異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
6
割内タリサ
イラスト 前屋沙夜
OVERLAP

Isekai Meikyuu no Saishinbu o Mezasou - WN Chapter 01-08

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Chapter 1

It’s dark.

So dark that there isn’t any sense of light at all.

I began to feel uneasy as I smelled something rank. The smell of blood is so strong that it hurts my nose. I almost felt like throwing up.

I jumped up with wide eyes shocked by the nastiness.

[-tsu!!] (1)

A dark corridor comes into view.

Even though it shouldn’t, light vaguely seems to radiate from the stonework.

Surveying the area there was a small altar enshrined behind me. Looking carefully I can see that the altar is so weathered it’s on the verge of collapsing.

It is a small stone table that has the remains of two candles on it. It appears an animal hide has been placed as an offering, stuck there by an arrow.

[What’s this … …]

I muttered.

As I often speak to myself, the words spilled out naturally.

[I don’t understand … … Something feels wrong … …]

(TLN:Might be I don’t feel good not positive)

Repeating the words my heart rate changes greatly. It rises.

I literally don’t understand. I can’t understand this situation.

I went to sleep, didn't I?

(TLN:not positive one this one it could be more like "I'm not asleep, am I?")

However, there is no warm bed here, neither is there a noisy mechanical alarm clock nor any morning sunlight spilling through the curtains or light from a lamp's light bulb.

Only a cold, unsanitary stone floor. A stench that hurts the nose and a few creepy stones that faintly emit light.

I feel sick … …

I covered my mouth and waited for the nausea to pass.

I heard a roaring sound in the distance.

[-Uoaaa!!](2)

It was a senseless wailing.

It seemed like a sound a wounded beast filled with killing intent would make.

[– Wait, wait, wait.]

I remarked unable to understand. Because I don't know what's happening, I don't even know what I'm saying. (Maybe I don't know what to say.)

In a panic, I begin to run in the direction opposite to which roar was heard.

I run through the stone corridor.

I turned several times, annoyingly the scenery doesn't change no matter how far I run away.

Along the way I feel something strange and hear a squishing sound.

I feel something squish into the tread of my shoe, so I check the sole of my sneakers.

There is a fist sized insect in it's death throes —

[U, Uaaa tsu!](3)

I cry out at the terrible sight.

It's not that I am especially afraid of insects. But in a city surrounded by concrete I have never run into such large ones, so I retreated from such a viscerally disgusting insect.

The insect cries out. In the same way a dolphin cries out for help.

I feel a chill and look up. My gaze turns towards the next corner.

Something with the visage of a person sized insect peeks around the corner.

A size common sense says is impossible.

It's body makes a 'gichi gichi' sound, as it's angular insect-like limbs move. At first sight it's near a stag beetle in appearance. However it's abnormal size and shape push my sanity to the edge.

[–tsu!](1)

I can't make another sound. If I do, the monster is likely to jump me, my only choice is to run the other way immediately.

I run and run and keep running.

Without thinking about where I am going I just keep moving.

I keep running until I run out of stamina and breath.

Then I come to my sense a little.

[-Uoaaa!!](2)

A beast's angry roar.

It's closer this time. I had foolishly returned to where I had escaped from.

I suddenly go pale, as my body stiffens.

However, being closer to the roar, I was able to pick up other sounds too.

It was the sound of people speaking.

[– tsu, — tsu!!](1)

As though walking towards an invisible light I headed towards the source of the voice.

My mind spun, another person, [People] I hoped.

The sound of the beast is also getting louder, but by approaching I become able to hear the person's voice clearly

[Close in! Close in, it'll work this time.]

It's the low voice of a mature man.

A man giving orders to people who are nearby.

The scene was like one from a fairy tale.

a person wearing leather armor, like those in museums, wielding a bow. A rustic person swinging an iron sword forcefully. A person firing fire from an untechnological wooden staff.

Such unrealistic people were fighting a roughly 2 meter tall wolf.

I didn't have enough courage to join the battle.

So I stopped in the distance, but I couldn't stop looking at the fight.

[This time we'll make, we'll succeed somehow! Persist!]

The man who seems to be in charge gives directions to the warrior with the large sword.

The warrior drew back his large sword, and tried to slash it down. But the large wolf expected it, and rammed into him with frightening speed. The warrior was blown away like a rubber ball.

Because it avoided the sword blow the wolf turned it's attention to the female wielding the wooden can that produced fire. Noticing this the other man broke formation in order to defend her.

The wolf followed his movement.

The fight had drawn closer to me.

I became panicked. I was also terrified.

If I had remained calm, it's possible that I could have moved.

But I could only just stand dumbfounded.

And, my eyes met those of the leader, who was wielding a short sword.

[N~tsu, you, who are you!?](4)

The man shouted at me looking terribly surprised.

[I, lost my way– , please help!]

I promptly requested assistance.

And I slowly stepped towards the man.

My speech was broken, but the meaning should have gotten through.

It should have, but the man's response was terribly cold.

[Help, thats –. You stupid?]

[–Eh?]

It wasn't exactly an acceptance or a refusal.

The contempt that said that such a request was outrageous was basically the answer.

The usual me would notice that was the case.

That these people can't afford to. That their character doesn't possess such kindness. It was impossible not to notice this because of the dangerous beast, or from their equipment and the weapons they held.

Presently, I wasn't able to think that far.

[It's a Labyrinth, in the 'Lawless Area' even. Prepare on the surface, brat.]

(TLN:lit. unmanaged/unrestricted area, I may need to come back and fix this as the story goes on.)

The man continued with words that were even colder.

And the man coldheartedly cut my leg with a stroke of his short sword.

Many thanks to Indra for helping me with all of these onomatopoeias!

(1)tsu:SFX/Onomatopoeia. I think it's like letting out a deep breath

(2)Uoaaa:SFX/Onomatopoeia. Seems to be a howl or roar of some kind

(3)Uwaa:SFX/Onomatopoeia. Small cry of shock or disgust I think

(4)N~tsu:SFX/Onomatopoeia. Not positive, a grunt followed by a 'tsu'?

Chapter 2

The cold blade passed through my thigh, making it burn with a blazing heat.

[U, uaa!]

I cry out as I fall on my rear, understanding I've been sliced by a sword.

"A Solo in our trade! Everybody, fall back. Let's leave the monster to him!"

(TLN:not sure here it's lit. To blame another, but I'm taking it as let him deal with it.)

The man leading gave an order to the others nearby.

I wasn't able to understand what he said. I did not want to.

The woman with the can looked at me as she passed, saying nothing.

The man who was blown away along with the rest of the people gave me a chilly look, as they walked past me in silence.

In the end, following them, the huge wolf appeared before my eyes —

[Ua, aaaaaaaaaaah!!]

In terror, I jumped to the side.

A sharp pain runs through the cut in my thigh, so I fall awkwardly.

Meanwhile the other people reach a safe area.

So the wolf turn towards me who is nearest.

My thoughts race. Various ill feelings sweep over me. I recall my

life up until this moment.

And then —

— Skill [???] activated itself.

Mentality will stabilize in exchange for some feelings.

Confusion was corrected by +1.00 —

(TLN:I thought this meant Confusion reduced by 100%, or Confusion Resistance was increased to 100%. Chapter 3 seems to indicates this is not necessarily/exactly the case)

Some sort of [Display] floats in my field of view. This isn't the time, I didn't intend to try and understand it.

However, together with the [Display], my emotions have cooled down.

My rushing thoughts have calmed, and my ill feelings have vanished, since it's like this I am able to concentrate.

My left leg is cut so I don't use it, so I can only stand on my right one.

At the same time the wolf attacks me.

The wolf pounces, and I jump vertically backwards.

However, it's not enough, the wolf is overwhelmingly fast. Even the brawny man from the earlier battle wasn't able to follow the wolf's speed. As it passes, the upper part of my right arm got cut by it's nail.

Then, I heard the people who reached a safe area speak.

[Alright, right here! Attack! Block the path!!]

I got a chill.

Not only was the wolf a threat, those people were my enemy too.

They made me bait, as they ran away; but even that wasn't enough –!

Following the chill, I glanced behind me, roaring flames covering the entire corridor were approaching me.

The huge wolf also noticed it. But it was too late. The huge wolf had jumped up trying to bite me to death so it was unable to avoid it.

Naturally, I was also too slow.

Damn, those guys! I too, will get burnt!

I curse in my mind.

The roaring flame explodes around us, so as to burn everything.

As it happened I jumped back as far as I could, covering my head with both hands.

The wind from the explosion struck my back, and blew me away.

The flames scorched my body. I could feel my whole body burning.

A maddening amount of pain rushed to my brain.

Through the pain, I maintain a thought.

I sustain my willpower, with frustration and hatred.

After being blown away I am flung against the ground, opening my eyes slowly I look around.

The flames which had filled the entire corridor vanished in an instant … like magic.

However, in the direction that the people had escaped there was a beautiful wall of fire.

[Wh, wh, a~~~]

That, was that their aim.

I wasn't able to get the words out of my burnt throat.

And now the path was blocked by a wall of fire, I reflect on that for a moment before slowly realizing that only the huge wolf and I remain.

The wolf also recovered and stood up at the same time I did.

(TLN:it's more like standing up after being knocked down, then it's wounds healing.)

However, it seemed to have been showered with more flames than me.

Disregarding the size of it's body, in the end because it sprang, leaping over me, it probably received more damage than I did.

It's weakened.

The wolf's breathing was rough, and it seemed to be staggering.

But, it's eyes shone brightly.

It's will to fight hadn't withered at all, It growled as if to say [Even wounded a wolf is fearsome] and stepped towards me.

Like the wolf I resolved myself.

I had been blown to a good location. It seemed the wolf couldn't see it, but behind was where the large sword that the warrior used during the earlier battle fell. If I can use it in a surprise attack, however small there is a chance of victory.

Having decided that, I immediately turned around, running at full strength.

As I turned around, I caught a glimpse of the wolf leaping towards me,

A sharp pain ran along my left thigh, and an alarm echoed loudly in my mind.

Nevertheless I ran. The feeling of my leg faded as I forced myself to tread the ground.

I can't grasp the timing. I'm unable to predict the wolf's approach.

I picked up the large sword, promptly, I turned around swing the large sword down.

The large sword was so heavy I wasn't able to support it even with both hands. Nevertheless I bet everything and followed through with all my strength at once.

With a raw dull sound, I saw that the large sword was buried in the wolf's neck.

[Yatta —-a, a, gua!]

(TLN:Yatta = I did it, the rest SFX I don't know but think are like panting after exerting oneself. Left it as Yatta because it fits the scene better than I did it or Did it, and Yatta should be common enough that most will have some understanding of it.)

The large sword gouged into it's neck, the wolf leaned into my body.

I was able to barely avoid it's teeth and nails, as the 2 meter bulk lean.

An incredible weight is applied to me, my stomach contents flow backwards spewing out of my mouth.

Even though it's neck was torn open, the wolf still tried to kill and eat me.

Opening it's mouth, the wolf tried to swallow my head. My fading awareness returns, and I dodge by twisting my body to it's limit. Doing so had even caused the large sword to gouge further in.

[U, Uooaaaaaaaa!!]

I used both hands intending to drive away the 2 meter bulk.

And, feeling a slight gap, I slip out from under the wolf.

Feeling the large sword not gouge any more, I let it go I take some distance.

The wolf did not follow me.

No, I'm going to do it. However my body won't move.

The wolf has lost a lot of blood, it's body was burned, it's appearance was ragged. But I couldn't be careless.

But, looking carefully I could see the turn of events.

One of the wolf's eyes was burnt, it seems unable to see.

An arrow is pierced deeply into it's hind leg, it's limping.

The large sword has probably reached it's windpipe. It made a whistling sound as it breathed.

It was clearly in worse condition that I was.

[–aaa, You … …]

The words spill out own their own.

The wolf advances towards me while dragging the large sword.

As a precaution, I move to the blind spot created by it's scorched eye, to avoid being seen.

Not long after, the wolf collapsed.

Then, the wolf disappeared as it was covered in a faint emerald green shimmer of light.

With a clanging sound, the large sword and the arrow fall to the ground.

[Eh … … ?]

Yes, it vanished.

The corpse did not remain, it vanished in a light like an illusion.

I was stunned at the sight.

After the wolf disappeared, a glittering green stone remained.

— The title [Shinsui of the beginning] has been acquired.

Strength has been adjusted by +0.1 —

(TLN:『深翠の始まり』is the title, best MT was Shinsui of the beginning.)

-Day one

Check out a good friend of mine that really helped me out on this chapter here at: http://kurotsuki-novel.blogspot.com/

Chapter 3

After defeating the wolf, I examined my surroundings.

There were a 2 corpses that looked as if wolf had torn them up.

Searching the bodies I obtained some food and utensils.

There was no sense of guilt. I could say it was necessary to survive, but it's more like my feelings were numb. My thoughts were abnormal. My body trembles, while I think of nothing, but doing my best to survive.

I took everything I could take.

Perhaps, because they were all things that this corpse felt were necessary to have [here].

I put on the gloves, I also replace my shoes with the corpse's leather ones. I put the cloak over my sweatshirt and hung the waterskin at my waist.

I stuck some oddly shaped knives (they are probably for throwing) between my belt and jeans, and held a one handed sword in my hand.

(TLN/NOTE:the brackets are the author's here not mine. In the future I won't comment on when this happens and I'll try to tag all my comments)

But, while there were two corpses I was alone. There were many things I wouldn't be able to take.

When I thought I was all set, I gave a short prayer to the dead.

(TLN:lit. I put my hands together towards the corpse(s))

With unburned shoes I was able to move better, my eyes pass where the wolf suddenly vanished.

The large sword is lying unceremoniously where it fell.

There would be uses for the large sword, but as it weighed around two times as much as the one handed sword, carrying it around was not pragmatic.

When I had given up on the large sword, a strong glitter reflected across my eyes.

It was a green jewel that was glittering with green light.

(TLN:seems weird to me but it's what it seems to be saying. ie, it is a green stone giving off a green light)

Among the corpse's belongings, there were many such gems.

Currently as my things were heavy enough as is, I decided the package would endanger my life needlessly, so I didn't take it.

However, this stone's color, it resembled the color of the wolf's fur.

In the back of my mind I thought: In this world there a things that remain after the creatures disappear, I guess this stone is one of them.

It was sentimental.

Perhaps there was a sense of affinity was created because we were both attacked by the same people.

I picked up the stone, shoving it in my pocket.

[So, What to do?]

Everything was ready.

Even if a hostile creature appears, there is a way to fight back.

I needed to decide whether I would [wait] or [move].

The cut on my leg was shallower than I had thought (I probably reflexively pulled my body back). But even though the pressure stopped the bleeding to some extent, it would still be troublesome

to walk.

If I moved, the bleeding would no doubt increase, and I would lose a considerable amount of strength. In addition it would be putting my life in danger.

Only, it's certain waiting would be terrible.

My recent experience was too terrible to wait for someone to help me.

Monsters, as well, but more than anything what took root in my heart was having been attacked by those people I'd asked for help.

Therefore, I decided to move.

[Can I use the sword like a cane as I walk?]

I take the sword and check to see how it feels.

(TLN:Saying "I tried it out" would probably still be correct, but when I'd like to remain closer to the original wording when possible)

It's not very suitable as a cane.

[I wonder if there isn't something better, meaning a [tool]]

While I said so, I also looked around and —

——Items

Empty——

(TLN: –Items Empty– was like that from the start.)

I saw a [Display] in the air.

[Eh, what … …, Eh?]

My confusion increases.

The sense of unreality increase.

A dry laughing voice comes forth.

Like an afterimage stuck to my retina, it is clearly a [Display]. Even changing my line of sight doesn't cause the [Display] to disappear from my view.

[Ha, hahaa, Just —]

Just like a [Game].

It definitely seemed a little like that, after all. (TLN:kept getting ワード as word, but I think that what I have is right.)

Fantasy. Labyrinth. Monsters. giant insects, a giant wolf. Adventurers, the swordsmen, the magician's flame. Post Death's, the light and gem.

All fantastical things, but things that can certainly be found easily in a game.

My complexion had inverted, ashen faced I surrendered clinging to such a delusion.

I accepted it immediately.

I found it easy to accept it at this point. Like in a dream, I felt far away from that point of view. Even though my fear had lessened, I still wanted to run away.

[I, If it's like that, first, my status. Please [Display] it]

For now, I hoped the words were appropriate.

–Status

Name: Aikawa Kanami HP:04/51 MP:72/72 Class:None

Level 1

Str: 1.01 Vit: 1.03 Dex:1.01 Int:4.00 Mag:2.00 Nat:7.00

State: Confusion:1.01 Bleeding:0.52

Experience Points:805/100

Equipment:

Iron one-handed sword

Clothes from another world

Elven Cloak

Leather Gloves

Leather Shoes

7 Enchanted Throwing Knives —

(TLN:Okay this was half easy half painful. Mag could be Charm, and Nat is Nature or character so it could be Willpower or Spirit. At this point I just can't be sure. As to the throwing knives, it seems to be something like spell mark containing throwing knives. Spell-marked or Curse Marked could work and might be a better choice, still roughly the same.)

[Oh, It became Japanese.]

For some reason or another the [Display] somehow managed to respond to my muttered complaint.

It's a little more awkward than it was in English, but it's more important that I understand it, so I kept reading it in Japanese.

First and foremost I was concerned about the [Items Empty] from earlier. Taking it frankly, currently, it's perception was that I did not have anything.

[U~n. I'm carrying things like dried meat and water among other things … …]

Nevertheless, It was like this.

— Item

Empty —

(TLN: property/belonging/baggage but as it was written Item in English earlier I am sticking with that.)

I checked it again, however it seems I still have nothing.

[Well, I get the general idea. As a game enthusiast … …]

In short the point is whether or not the conditions are met.

Like a game from my youth, there was an inflexible condition for it to be there, and I have not met it.

[Equipment are probably those I'm wearing directly and that can influence a fight. So to speak, things that influence parameters … …]

Then, things aside from those, should not be considered equipment. In other words, wearing, is not what I should have done to have them.

[I wonder if there isn't an infinite bag or something like that?]

I checked the things I was carrying again.

A bag ..? I try putting things in and out of my empty pockets in various ways.

Nothing happens.

[Well then … …]

Insert Insert Insert e~ … … .

I tried holding up the dried meat in the empty space, as an experiment.

The space easily distorted and bent, swallowing the dried meat.

[Whoa!]

I withdrew right away.

It was a viscerally terrifying sight to bear. However, I fear that it's

likely that this is the correct answer.

[Okay, [Items]]

–Items

Dried meat 1 —

[Hahaa, Yeah, what an amazing game.]

The laughter, was half in fear and half because of the success.

However, with this I was able to grasp the rule of [Items].

It was possible to store things somewhere by holding them up in the air with the intention of putting them in.

[With this it will be much easier.]

I decided to scavenge for food and tools a second time.

[Items] other rule's are checked through trial and error, as I hold the objects in the air one after the other.

Incidentally, the adventurer's corpses, and small insects didn't go in.

Whether it was too big, or a living thing, it seemed to reject on some sort of condition.

–Items

3 Dried Meat

2 Waterskins

2 Hemostatic Medicine (TLN:I very much want to use Coagulant.)

3 Oil

1 Numbness Needle (TLN: I get this most often but I can't help but think Anesthetic Needle or something like that)

2 Antidotes

1 File

1 Large Sword of Oria (TLN:オーリアの大剣 might be O'leary's Large Sword)

1 Leather Gloves

1 Leather Shoes

1 Cloth Clothes

1 Wooden Bow

1 Iron Knife

1 Unmarked Arrow

1 Lighter

1 Smartphone

4 Pebbles

1 Branch

12 10th Rank Magical Stones

3 9th Rank Magical Stones —

Incidentally, the lighter and smartphone I inserted into [Items] after confirming the safety of depositing and withdrawing things, were from the jeans I was wearing. Immediately after finding it I tried communicating with the smartphone, but naturally it could not connect. Even so, the time has deviated several years from the last time I checked, so it was probably broken by an impact. However, the light and clock functions worked, so it was saved.

[It accommodates various … … . Above all, it helps that it names things that I don't understand well. As a game the degree of difficulty may fall, it helps, but … …]

Although there was dissatisfaction that the unit was ambiguously represented by a "1-9", when it displayed as [Antidote] to that

which I could only see as a powder, my face spontaneously relaxed.

[Still, there are many things to try SO–]

[—— ~Tsuu~uu~agaaaaaaaa!!]

When I thought I would seriously try it out from now on, a beast's roar echoed through the corridor.

[That, I'll test it out later.]

As the circumstances had been too good I had forgotten, I was still in a maelstrom of danger.

Using the high priority [Hemostatic Medicine] (as I didn't know it's usage I smeared it on the rinsed wound.), I began walking away from the roar using the sword as a cane.

I did not hurry, so as not to burden my body, listening attentively to the surroundings, I advanced.

When reviewing my status it seemed the bleeding has eased and HP is recovering naturally.

Feeling like the danger to my life had passed a little, I felt relieved as I continued to walk.

Chapter 4: Tutorial and Magic

異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
Aim for the Depths of the Different Worlds Labyrinth

4.チュートリアルと魔法
Chapter 4 – Tutorial and Magic

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

To retrieve or store items, I need to be standing still. But, I didn't stop moving because the things that I'm testing out can be done while walking.
As I walk, I mutter to myself the words that I could remember.

「Status, Help, Map, Save, Log, Chat, Log Out, Login, Skill――」 (Kanami)

Are there no new displays? I had called out basic words that came to mind.
I wanted a help display the most, but there was no response. The previous online game that I played had a gamelog and a chat, but those things are not found here. Although, 『map』 and 『skill』 had a reaction.

A typical square looking 『map』 had appeared. Thanks to this display, I was able to get through the passageway.

Skill Status
Innate Skill　Swordsmanship 1.01　Ice magic 2.00
Secondary Skill　Dimension magic 5.00
???　???
???　???

There are two 『???』 columns. After I had arrived here, there wasn't much I knew. The thing that had invented this system (as to whether they are a person or a god, I don't know; but) for now, I will leave the matter pertaining to this 『person or thing』 aside. Although, I made the decision unwillingly.

Perhaps, magic does exist here.
Before I knew it, I had become a magician. In my mind, I cheerfully recall the words and they are displayed.

Magic
Ice Magic　Freezing 1.00　Ice 1.00
Dimension Magic　Dimension 1.00

I had prepared myself to see nothing, but there were 3 useable magic. It made me jump with joy. For the reason why I can use magic, I don't know. But, I will utilize what can be used. In a video game, it isn't unusual to have a few starter skills.

For a game it is typical, however……

I decide to try firing it; 『ice』 is selected.

「Umm, go ice magic 『ice』!」 (Kanami)

While reciting the word, I held up my hand. I imagine ice shooting from my palm.
I felt something coming out. A cold breeze is slowly collecting at my palm.

Perhaps, the moisture from the air that had collected at my palm has begun to freeze. It took approximately 10 seconds for the ice to reach its full size. However, it didn't shoot off. No matter how I look at it, this wasn't an attack magic.

「……」 (Kanami)

What exactly is this magic……, urghhhhh……

Perhaps, this is a simple magic that is used in daily life. Afterwards, I had to run away from a big insect like animal; it may not have been flashy, but it was the only thing I could think of. The

misfortune couldn't be helped.
The ordinary ice that I went to such great lengths to produce, I used it to make an ice pack with the pretty clothes I gotten from the looted corpses. I applied the ice pack to the areas where I had been burnt.

Continuing from where I had left off, I tried to fire off 『freeze』.
The results were similar to before.
The temperature in the surrounding area slowly went down; its effects could slightly be felt.

The possible effects of 『dimension』 has me worried. I have a hunch that the dimension part has something to do with space. Although, I'm uncertain. However, based on the previous freeze magic, I estimate that it shouldn't be too dangerous. It is possible that a warp zone could materialize in this labyrinth. It's not difficult to imagine; magic is something that could completely change my current circumstances. For now, I will leave it to my imagination and refrain myself from using it.
If it's poorly done, a black hole could be create. And, that would be scary.

However, the magic that I envision might be in reality completely different.

「Recovery Magic, White Magic, MP absorption, Renew, Neo Magic, First-Aid, Burn, Cure――」 (Kanami)

Good grief; there wasn't a single hit. Anyhow, the recovery magic that I wanted the most had no results; I had already prepared myself for that conclusion.
However, there was a surprising 『display』.

Assign Skill Points
Swordsmanship 1.01　Ice magic 2.00　Dimension magic 5.00
Current skill points zero――

I have zero skill points.

Perhaps if I were to raise my level it would increase.

Level Menu
805/100
Next level requirement met——

In the status display, the XP column reads that the current EXP has exceed the max cap.
Sure enough, I can level-up.

However, 「requirement met」 display gives me an unpleasant feeling.
There is no automatic level-up mechanic; it is very likely that it has to be manual applied. And most likely, the processes is strict.

For the time being, I need to search for the method to apply the level-up.

「If level-up can be done, I pray that——Ouch!」 (Kanami)

A rush of heat in my right arm causes me to raise my voice.
Suddenly, I saw that there is a cut on my arm. Blood can be seen coming out of my arm.

「——urk!」 (Kanami)

I immediately look around my surroundings.
Something is moving in the corner of my field of vision.
It is 『deformed』. Floating in mid-air, there is a large deformed thing that resembles a human's head. It also has little wings. The deformed silhouette is nearby the insect creature.

「Monster!?」 (Kanami)

Right away, I readied myself.
Ever since I came here, nothing has been normal. I'm starting to lose track of who I am. My daily life had been converted into this game like world.
An apathetic outlook allows me to perform efficiency in this typical game-like scenario. (T/N: someone plays a lot of video games)

Using the hand that is grasping the sword, I slash upwards with the intent to kill. However, the deformed creature evades the attack ahead of time. Having confirmed that it had evaded my attack, I

quickly ran away.

If it had not dodged the first strike, I would have stayed and fought. But, this time the conditions were unfavorable.

The sound of it's wings buzzing could be heard as it chased me. When I could no longer hear it, I surmised there had been distances put between us.

Of course, it is still somewhere behind me. It was chasing me, therefore it's only logical.
Now then, it's only a matter time. This is the perfect chance for a counterattack.

In my head, I go over the plan for the counterattack. Because this method is from a video game, it might not work. But, I think it is at least worth testing out.

As it approaches, I retrieved the bag that contains water from my 『belongings』; I then scattered out all of its contents behind me.

The sound of its wingbeat became disturbed, and it shrieks.
Water is very effective on creatures with wings. From game bugs (glitches) to battle strategies, these types of things were popular topics. The deformed figure's mobility is obviously hindered and it falls to the ground.

After confirming it, I use my magic.

「『freeze』」(Kanami)

It may be an ordinary magic, but in its weakened state this magic could be effective on it. With this magic, I have determined that this is the safest distance to use it at.

「I don't expect it to be frozen, but will it stay grounded?」(Kanami)

Its struggles in vain as it tries to flop to me.
However, simply by looking I could tell that its mobility is drastically weakened. Try as it may, its efforts were futile and it never reached me. I 『observed』 the situation as to not miss

anything.

Monster
Dark Ring Flier Rank 2
A 『display』 was generated.
It revealed the deformed creature's information.

To be honest, I found this spiteful. Most likely, if I use my weapon to defeat the monster, Dark Ring Flier, the display will disappear. Nevertheless, without reservations, it 『displays』 itself between me and the Monster.

It can no longer receive my attacks. After some time pass, it makes a dull cry. I bring down my sword and strike it in a suitable spot. The deformed creature falls and disappears in a burst of light. A dull transparent stone was left behind.

The stone is a 『grade 10 magic stone』. By the way, the 『display』 went away. I check the change in my XP. To put things into perspective, the 『Dark Ring Flier』 was a lower rank Monster.

「Was it really a good idea to use my MP on a rank 2 Monster……?」 (Kanami)

My remaining MP is 68. There is still quite a bit left, but I'm unsure if that was wasteful or not.

I correct my path and returned to the dangerous corridor; once more I advance forward.

As I walk, I investigate more about the level-up system.
In the end, I couldn't figure it out and had to stay at level 1.
What exactly do I need to do to level-up? Having an excessive amount of XP piling up is annoying me.

I think back to my last battle.
It is difficult to spot a surprise attack by monsters. If it had not been a rank 2, but a more fiendish monster, I would have possibly died.

As much as possible, I try to investigate the 「display」 without stopping, because it is safer for me to not stop moving.
Otherwise, if I'm distracted while standing still, I'll be taken by

surprise.

While thinking to myself as I'm walking, I hear a sound coming from the distances.
Directly ahead of me, there is a giant bug.
This is the first monster to challenge me head on. The giant bug has a typical single horn with two edges.

Monster
Ripper Beetle rank 3

Judging by its name, I can guess its style of attacking. It is best that I don't stop moving. I wonder, what would happen to me if it handicaps me?
The Ripper Beetle noticed me, and gradually got closer.

It is a rank 3, but how dangerous is it? That, I do not know.
Thinking back, the rank 2 wasn't much of a challenge. With my strength and this sword, I could probably handle a rank 1~5. I should be alright.

When the Ripper Beetle had reached a certain distance, it suddenly begin to charge at me. However, compared to the wolf this one is noticeably slower. As we passed each other, I slashed it.

「Shaaa！」(Kanami)

The sound of iron hitting something hard can be heard. And, the sword is repel.
It might have been a bad spot to strike. Although, it was unexpected that the blade would be repel. I tried various things while put my all into it as I shouted out 「Shaa!」, but I didn't even leave a dent.

Its movements are ordinary, and it's nothing worth worry about; it is slower than both the wolf and 『Dark Ring Flier』. I thought about targeting the gaps in-between its head. In preparation for my plan, I retrieved something from my 『belongings』.

The Ripper Beetle repeats the simple rush attack. First, I avoided it and then I poured oil on the Ripper Beetle. Second, I used the lighter to ignite it on fire.

I didn't expect to successfully lit the fire on the first attempt. This time I was lucky. The Ripper Beetle's body that is covered in flames, and it begins to writhe in the fire.

「Oh, wow……」 (Kanami)

Before my eyes the Ripper Beetle's limbs starts to fall off and become disconnected. Invertebrates are weak to high temperature. I immediately stabbed it in various places with my sword. It disappears within the burst of light as a stone falls to the ground.

This time, a black stone falls from the defeat monster; the display reads 『black insect stone』.
It bothered me; so I held it in my palm and 『examined』 it.

『black insect stone』
It is different from a common magic stone; it is infused with the magic of an insect.
The black stone has no grade. Well, it is a monster drop from a bug monster——

That's all the detail displayed here……
It is a rather convenient explanation.

Right away, I searched for any other unknown information.

First, I check the grade of my equipment.
The elven cloak and Oria's longsword have a minor divine blessing.
The elven cloak has resistances to high and low temperatures.
While Oria's longsword has a bonus to piercing damage.

I don't know the numerical values of these equipment, but I understand that their offensive and defensive properties are very beneficial to me.

And thus, I examine the details of my magic; the information that has bothered me the most.

『Dimension』
Consumption MP 1
Basic dimension magic. The effects correspond to the user's comprehension of support and space——

It seems to be support magic.
I had prayed that it was some sort of warp magic that could transport me to my home world, but it probably isn't that convenient.

「Dimension magic 『Dimension』」 (Kanami)

For now, I need to see what happens.
After reciting its name, I focus all of my five senses. Should I call this my 6th sense? Something that wasn't on of my five senses, picked up a disturbance in the surrounding area. About five meters away, I sensed a distortion in space.

『Oh, this is good.』

Although, I have obtained various advantages, this magic is indeed wonderful.
Above all, an ability to detect enemies is an important asset. It is especially helpful to someone like me, who often gets caught up in sudden perilous encounters.

While measuring the time limit of 『dimension』, I use its abilities to avoid monsters as I made my way through the labyrinth.

From time to time, I tried out new things to test with the system. Thanks to 『dimension』, I wasn't caught off guard. It never seemed to overlook any living being.

Making good use of 『dimension』, I was able to grasp the layout of the 『map』.
I advance through the labyrinth at a greatly increased speed.

However, it made me careless.

After having obtaining an advantageous magic, I had become blinded from my good fortune.
I was overconfident in my ability to get through this video game-like labyrinth.

30 minutes had passed since the situation began to deteriorate.

– ToC –

Chapter 5: Not Quite a Boy Meets Girl Response

異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
Aim for the Depths of the Different Worlds Labyrinth

5.一応のボーイミーツガール
Chapter 5 – Not Quite a Boy Meets Girl Response

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

I have been afflicted with an abnormal status; the poison is draining my endurance.

After 15 minutes of using 『dimension』, I got into a battle with a rank 1 monster.
Up until now, I was able to avoid all the monsters that I came across. But, it was unable to detect a monster that wasn't moving. The monster in question is a rank 1. It seemed to be sleeping, and I didn't noticed it. I was using 『dimension』 without knowing its flaw. It didn't notice the big frog that was barely moving.

With a simple name such as 『Big Frog』, I thought it was easy EXP. So, I smashed it with my sword.
When I smashed, its body fluids scattered everywhere. Although, the Big Frog died with one strike, its body fluids stuck to my me. It is a major problem because I'm already worn out and covered in wounds. The body fluids enter my wounds and my status becomes : poison.

Having become pale, I confirm the poison status and immediately take an antidote.

However, the poison status doesn't go away.

I check the details of the antidote, and realize my situation is much more serious.

——Antidote
A commonly sold antidote. Compounded to cure toxics from 『Poison Bee』. Has a 5% chance of curing other types of poisons——

My breathing becomes heavy.

This antidote is used for a different type of poison.
That means this poison status 『display』 has a 5% chance of being cured with this antidote.
To hit that 5%, I drank all of the antidotes.

「Oh, no. Oh no, oh no, oh no.」 (Kanami)

There wasn't much time left.
Profuse sweating, and loss of endurance. I put a piece of 『ice』 made from magic into my mouth to replenish my lost fluids. With this system, I don't have any methods to restore my HP.

As I endure it, I check my status.

——Status
Name　Aikawa Kanami　HP 17/51　MP 61/72
Level 1
Physical Strength 1.01　Endurance 1.03　Ability 2.02　Speed 2.02　Intelligence 4.00　Maryoku 2.01　Potential 7.00
Condition : Confusion 1.09　Bleeding 0.21　Poison 1.00——

Before, my HP had naturally recovered to 30, but now it is at 17.
The poison decreases my HP by 1 every few minutes; it doesn't just drain my endurance but also my mental state.

「Haha, haha, haha!」 (Kanami)

My breathing became rough, and my consciousness begins to fade.

If the situation continues, I will die.

In the corner of my mind, I tried to come up with a solution to this problem.
All things considered, my chance of surviving is low.

I only have a few choices left. Using all of my MP, I decide to gamble on the effect of 『dimension』.
As I replenish my fluids with 『ice』, I second check the dimension magic's effect. I knew that although it may be the same magic, the effect differs depending on how much MP is used.

Many times over my detection range expands.

An overflow of monster information is streamed to me. I have to force myself to stay conscious.
Having used around 50 times my normal range, I discover something greatly different aside from the monsters; it is in a corridor.
The corridor seems to be some sort of establishment. It's floors are coated with some type of material. If I had to say, the fixed lights seemed arranged; it gives me the feeling that it is a pathway that leads to a town.

With me as the center, I expand my range of detection.
I understood that this is an established road; I sense several people walking along it.

I deactivate 『dimension』.
My remaining MP had been reduced to a single digi.

——HP16/51　　MP9/72——

「Phew, wahaha, haha……」 (Kanami)

I have found people.
And, the people I've found are passing by each other without being hostile to one another.

Perhaps, this road is different from here.
I recall the contents of the conversation from when I was attacked. The 「labyrinth, and 『outside management』——」. So, does that mean this area is outside of the managements jurisdiction;

therefore, the fighting. Does that means the other road is within the management's domain; is that why there is no fights? It's most likely safe there.

「Minimum 『dimension』, I need to get there without stopping…… huff!」 (Kanami)

I set my destination to the established road.

My HP had stopped decreasing; after confirming it, I began to search for other people.

The antidote that I used to cure the poison was found on a corpse, along the way.
I accepted it, even though it was looted. In the first place, I haven't encountered anyone new yet. Well, I'll start from here.
My eyes have become blood-shot; it was all dued to the various events that had been piling up.

The 'this is like a video game' bravdo from before is gone. However, right now, I'm not the usual me.

I can't allow myself to lose consciousness; in order for me to survive I need to keep moving my feet.

◆◆◆

「Should we advance to the 10th floor, today?」 (unknown guy A)
「Sounds good. Recently, things have been going well. Our earnings would definitely increase.」 (unknown guy B)
「I also agree.」 (unknown guy C)

I overhear a conversation between a couple of men.
Based on the contents of their conversation, these 3 men are making a living from the labyrinth.

However, judging by their appearance, none of them look like honest men. Their fierce face are comparable to the yakuza from my home world.
I use a little bit more MP to strengthen 『dimension』, and properly

listen to their conversation.
My remaining MP is 4.
After a struggling journey to the established road, I hid myself from any approaching people.

I'm hoping for a one on one conversation with someone; either a young female, or someone with a soft appearance. A person with both or either trait, would be nice.
However, my expectations shouldn't be to high. My current HP had greatly decreased because of the poison.

I use the remainder of my MP (or should I say, I left 1 MP, because having zero would be scary), 『dimension』 is invoked; I search for anyone close by that meets my requirements.

About 200 meter is scanned to find the position of any hostile threats.

In my range, there are 4 parties.
There is the 3 men from moments ago, a 5 party group with a mixture of men and women wearing mix-match attire, one group of 4 fitted in sets of silver armor, and lastly a female pair.

I decided to approach the female pair. (T/N: not creepy in the slightest)
They appear docile and kind. Perhaps, they will be willing to help me.

However, the 5 party group and the group in silver armor are directly between me and the female pair. I try to sneak past them.
I try to hold my breath and walk pass them, ——I wanted to however……

「Hey, the person that is hiding there, you best come out.」 (man in silver armor)

The group in silver armor sees through my hiding spot.
The mix-match group of 5 didn't notice me, but the silver armor group did. Despite the fact that I'm in their blind spot, how is it they knew.

My heart rate begins to rise. Their group was second on my list for requesting aid.
I regain my train of thought, and begin to construct a story to tell them.
I sheath my sword and slowly make my way to the established road.

「Hmm, an ordinary thief?」 (man in silver armor)

The man in silver armor steps forward alone and begins to ask simple questions.

Compared to the other people I have met so far, the 4 people equipped in silver armor seemed different; they have an affluent air to them.
Between the 4 of them, the girl stands out the most. Her age seems to be around my own, although she is a bit shorter. And, she is startling…… startling beautiful. She has golden long hair that seems to be shimmering. Her face is so perfect that no doll could possibly replicate it.
I advert my eyes away from the girl. She held herself with such confidence that it took mine away.

I decided to greet them. My attention goes to the tall and sincere guy wearing the sliver armor.

「I'm no thief. My condition is unwell. Must you stop me?」 (Kanami)
「If that is the case, it is good that 『Justice』 stops you. Do you understand, one shouldn't lie.」 (tall man in silver armor)

The man outright denies my story. I'm a little annoyed.
Apparently, this road is being protected by a 『Justice』 that never rest. The surveillance on this road is very strict. Trying to sneak in had backfired.

From the beginning, I made a mistake. I begin to grow pale.

「Ju-『justice』 do you have a reason to stop me? 」 (Kanami)

Lying has become counterproductive. I must speak with sincerity.
He seems to be the type of person that takes offense from being

directly lied to. If that is the case, then I better act as an honest person.

「Hmm. Certainly, performing an ambush alone is too much.」 (tall man in silver armor)

The man's face slightly softens.
And, the other men agree.

「A child alone. It's unthinkable.」 (unknown man A)
「Is it that, you're lost, or did you try to recklessly challenge the labyrinth?」 (unknown man B)

A man interrupted with a good explanation.
In the first place, they didn't consider the worn-out and alone me as a threat.

I try to watch over the situation without saying anything topic changing.

「Don't excessively frighten the child, Hein. It will contradict with our code of chivalry.」 (man in silver armor A)
「Shut up, we must be diligent.」 (Hein)

The mood becomes merry.
I have heard of chivalry before. This group of people might not be so bad afterall. It maybe a risky gamble, but I decided to ask them anyways.

I prepare ready myself to ask them about the poison I was inflicted with——

「A-ah——」 (Kanami)
「——you're quite an interesting follow, aren't you?」 (girl in silver armor)

I'm interrupted by the girl in silver armor.

Before I knew it, the girl gotten close to me.
I became mesmerized by her golden pupils. Various feeling I had were held down by the beautiful glaze of her eyes.

One could hear the surprise in the men's voice that is cause by the girl's sudden actions.

「E-eh, do you need something from me miss……?」 (Kanami)
「Ah, excuse me. It's nothing important.」 (girl in silver armor)

While saying so, she steps closer to me.
I wanted to raise my voice, and tell her to not get so close.
However, my throat is dry and my voice won't come out.

「Wait, wait a moment. Please, refrain from touching the adventurer!」 (man in silver armor)

A lone man raised his voice.

「Is that not close enough? Please wait. First, listen to what he has to say, before you do anything?」 (man in silver armor B)
「Oh, I see…..」 (girl in silver armor)

The girl stops on the man's rebuttal.

She had yet to reach out to me.

「I'm I really that interesting――」 (Kanami)

She whispers to me something only I could hear.

「――very interesting. Quite enviable. I'm really, really jealous of you.」 (girl in silver armor)

Only I could hear her whispers.
Her quiet voice sent shivers down my spine.

I suddenly see the girl's face.
Her face is warped; she truly is envious of me.
From where I was standing, I confirm the situation. The men were watching over us.

「Aren't you lucky, aren't you lucky――」 (girl in silver armor)

As if she were cursing me, she kept muttering something.
From the mouth of the goddess, I listen to her as she continues to

mutter her curse like poem.

「Wh-what's wrong? Do you see something with your『eyes』?」 (man in silver armor A)

A man who had grown impatient asks a question.

Upon the questioning, the girl's expression becomes emotionless. The girl turns to face the man, and she smiles.

「Eh, no that isn't so.」 (girl in silver armor)

She is now acting like a innocent girl, but it is hard to believe that not too long ago she was cursing me.

「Is that so? What is so interesting, is it a skill or something?」 (man in silver armor A)

「No way, nothing like that. It just, this person has suffered from the effects of poison, and their endurance has been drained. 」 (girl in silver armor)

「Eh?」 My voice leaks out.
The blood in my body runs cold.

「Ah, I see, was that it?」 (man in silver armor A)
「Well then, the kind and gentle, I, will show mercy on this person.」 (girl in silver armor)

After declaring it, she turns around to my direction, and begins to invoke magic.

「『hear me, gentle sunlight』 『return, oh mysterious water』 『may, heaven and earth unite』——」 (girl in silver armor)

A pure-white light from the girl's hands floats to me, and envelops my body.
In sequence, the fatigue and pain from body begins to settle down. As if what had happen to me was all a lie, my body became light and well again.

I couldn't help but become fixated on the current circumstances.

There was no reason for me to not accept the recovery magic's healing.

「——『cure-full』. There, all done.」 (girl in silver armor)

The light stops pouring from her hands. She looks to me and smiles. She showed no feelings of the jealousy from before.

And then, once again, she inquires about my circumstances.

「Phew, ah-hum. Isn't this the bad status 『confusion』. How intriguing. A-ah, the burnt marks weren't treated soon enough so it will leave scars.」 (girl in silver armor)

The girl gave a nod of admiration after confirming the bad status, 『confusion』. In response to her words, I——

——Status
Name Aikawa Kanami HP51/51 MP1/72
Level 1
Physical Strength 1.01 Endurance 1.03 Ability 2.02 Speed 2.02 Intelligence 4.00 Maryoku 2.01 Potential 7.00
Condition : Confusion 1.00——

I'm still 『confused』.
And, can the girl also see this 『display』?
What she is able to see might not be the same as mine; however it may be, she is able to perceive my 『confusion』 status.

After seeing my situation, she faintly laughs in a voice that only I could hear.

「Let's meet again. My name is Lastiara.」 (girl in silver armor, Lastiara)

「Milady, is there really nothing?」 (guy in silver armor, knight B)

The knights confirmed that the recovery had finished, and they walk closer to me.

「No, it is nothing at all. Ah, it feels good to help someone, you know. Well, it's about time we return.」 (Lastiara)

The girl introduces herself as, Lastiara, and walks away from me.
Not long after, the knights approached me.
Right away, I spoke to them.

「Th-thank you very much……」 (Kanami)
「That is quite alright, just be sure to return the favor someday.」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara responds with a smile that a carnivorous animal would give to its prey.
Of course, only I cannot see her angelic face.

「Well, sonny, see yah later. Stay safe.」 (Hein)
「Right back to you.」 (Kanami)
「That's not quite right.」 (Knight B)

The other guys slightly chuckle. However, unlike them, there is a hint of irritation coming from Lastiara. I suppose that her polite smile is used to cover-up her low tolerance.
I thought about separating myself from Lastiara as soon as possible.

「Yes, you have saved me. Well, everyone, until next time.」 (Kanami)

After say so, on the main road, I part ways with 『justice』 and that girl. I went in the opposite direction from them. I'm assuming this way is the exit. To make sure, I wave down one of the men and ask.

Having part ways with that group, I can't help but smile.

– ToC –

Chapter 6: Labyrinth Country

異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
Aim for the Depths of the Different Worlds Labyrinth

6.迷宮国家
Chapter 6 – Labyrinth Country

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

As I observe my surroundings, I see a bunch of ordinary and soft hearted people around me.

The first time I meet the people here they had cut my leg and used me as a decoy. I'm sure now that they did so for the sake of escaping and they weren't being mean spirited. For now, only a normal and indescribable anxiety remains. I am certain (it was all due to the girl named Lastiara).
I mingle with the good natured people and I talk to them with a 『proper』 and dignified tone.

The female duo from before walked pass me.
There was no grace in how they carried themselves.

I head to the exit, but I'm still unsure if this is the correct way. People are coming in from this direction. I held my ground, and continued.
Along the way, various groups of people pass by me.
Although, there were some onlooker among the groups of people, no problems arose.

And thus, while on the 『correct path』, after 10 minutes of climbing several flights of stairs, I struggle to the exit and finally arrived there.

「yup, yup……」 (Kanami)

My eyes bathed in the sunlight, and my body bathe in the calm wind. The labyrinth's atmosphere couldn't even compare to this sensation.
I have return to the surface, alive.

As joy spreads through my entire body, a man with perfect posture walks up and greets me.

「Hey there, brother.」 (unknown man)

The man has a friendly smile. However, I notice that he has a dangerous looking sword around his hip.
Judging by his appearance, he doesn't seem hostile. The man is formally dressed.
Not to long ago, as I was climbing up to this 『gateway』, I considered the high possibility of encountering guards upon reaching here.
The thought makes me break out into a cold sweat. I try to suppress my feelings of uncertainty.

「Eh, you appear to have had a hard time……」 (unknown man)

I reply with inoffensive language.

「Phew, certainly I do look worn-out. This time, I didn't get a chance to wash-up.」 (Kanami)

With his thumb the man points to a place in the distances.

「Thank you very much. I'll go there right away.」 (Kanami)

I heard him say something about a 『water service』. In gratitude, I bow to him.

「No problem, it's my job.」 (unknown man)

And thus, I walk along the path the man had indicated.
As I continue onwards, I thought more about the conversation I had with the man from moments ago. He had mentioned that our conversation is apart of his 『job』. Whether or not his duty

involves assisting the public is uncertain. But, it is highly likely that he was trying to help me.

I reach a well, after walking for a while.
After hearing that there is a water service here, I had thought it would be more modern. It is quite disappointing. Whatever, if it works, why complain.

The well mechanism is similar to the ones in my home world. It didn't take long to draw the water.
First, I should refill the leather water bag from my 『belongings』. I soak my clothes in water, and I try to wipe the dirt and grime off the wet clothes. They somewhat become cleaner. Although scrubbing them with just water is good, I'm concern about the smell from only rinsing it with just water. (T/N: ah yes, traveling to another world to do laundry)

While doing my laundry, I thought more about the male guard that I had talked to not so long ago.
So that I don't become a hazard to the crowd of people, it is best that I don't talk to random strangers; because, that would be dangerous. To be good at collecting information one requires proper character and good judgement. It doesn't matter if one's appearance is detestable.

I simulated several practice conversations before naturally approaching the man from before. (T/N: are ya asking him out on a date)

「Phew, there were several times that I thought I wouldn't make it. You really made my day.」 (Kanami)
「Ah, there is a water service area, and this is the labyrinth's entrance. And, north of here is 『Fuuzuyaazu (フーズヤーズ)』.」 (male guard)
「…… eh, is that all? Are there no other locations?」 (Kanami)
「Ah, this here is a nation of knights. The labyrinth is the main lifeline of the 5 countries; it is their primary source of income.」 (male guard)

Uh-huh. He doesn't seem to hear me, and our word simply pass by one another.

To be frank, they do not understand modern matters such as things like terms used from my home world. However, the people in this world my response to 『magic』 related topics. Although, my expectations are low since it is a topic I do not understand. I'm not at a level to where I can comprehend it.

I pretend to act as if I'm aware of their general knowledge.

「 『Fuuzuyaazu』 , is money used there? 」 (Kanami)
「That is correct. Many facilities were constructed for the labyrinth. What is it boy? Is this your first time in this country? 」
「Eh, yes, I just got here. 」 (Kanami)
「Nowadays, traveling to and from the 5 countries has become lax. 」 (male guard)
「I see, do you mind teaching me about the various places in this country that I should know about? 」 (Kanami)
「Okay. If that is the case, why not go to the central plaza; it is straight ahead from here. There is a signboard with a map there. From there, you can find the national library. I hear you can look up places and addresses there. Although, it would be good for you to get familiar with the guild and the church. 」 (male guard.)
「Indeed, thank you very much. 」 (Kanami)

Feeling great gratitude to him, I bow to the man.

「It is fine, it's my job after-all. 」 (male guard)

While saying there is no need for thanks, the man's cheeks are flush with embarrassment.

I judge that this conversation can no longer be extended. Although, the man keeps saying that it's apart of his job, he might have merely used it as a pretense to chat. Leaving things as they are, I decide to leave.

「Well, until next time. 」 (Kanami)
「Ah, see you later. 」 (male guard)

I give a slight wave, and make my way to the central plaza.

Having walked around, I'm starting to grasp the layout of the

backside of the labyrinth outside of the entrance.
The labyrinth is a tremendously enormous ruin.
In the center, there is a big tree that protrudes into the sky and it towers over its surroundings. Among the big tree's layer of branches, there are beds of jewel like ornaments laid out.
The ornaments themselves are gigantic. Perhaps, they are in someway related to the labyrinth?

I'm move further away from the labyrinth.
I reflect on my escape from there.
◆◆◆
I've finally arrive in town.

The street has a design that looks similar to a royal road found in a RPG video game. I feel that the appearance is bias in favor of western culture from the medieval age.

The street is oddly setup; there are pretty gem like ornaments everywhere. The ornaments are line-up with gaps in-between. They are placed along the 『road』 that leads to the labyrinth. Perhaps, gems are not as valuable in this world.

As I walk along the main road, I see numerous buildings; from wooden one to brick ones, they are constructed from various kinds of materials. The people I see walking around the street seem lively. I also see a diversity of people. There is a person wearing casual smocks, and also a person wearing heavy armor. The heavy armor makes a clucking noise as the person walks. This place is overflowing with humans that have various skin colors. From time to time, I see a person with an animal like form. A so called, half man/ half beast, one would call it. I see a person with sharp fangs sticking out, and a person with long ears. There is also a person with a fluffy tail and someone with beautiful plumes. I see, there are many fantasy races here. (T/N: thought this paragraph would never end)

My common sense or should I say lack of common sense has turned into an unusual blend.
Anyhow, I'm racking my brain as I try to get it all together.

Although, there are a lot of people, it doesn't feel crowded. But,

instead I feel that the vast sky is suffocating me. And thus, I feel an overwhelming sense of loneliness. It reminds me of the time when I was a child, and I had gotten lost in a department store. As if the world was ending, I feel a hopeless sense of despair.
This is the current world I live in. I am, I am——

——Skill 『???』 is out of control.
A certain amount of emotion has been converted to stabilize mental state.
Confusion has been corrected by +1.00——

「Ah……」 (Kanami)

The 『display』 vanish.

I feel at peace.
My condition becomes the same as the message that had been displayed. The anxiety I felt is gone, and I can now clearly think.
I'm assuming that the 『???』 skill has relieved me of my anxiety.
Is it possible that this skill is actually a dangerous wolf in disguise?

I look around but there is no one I recognize. I look around but nothing looks familiar.
It is too detailed, to realistic, and to large-scale.

This scenery before me is proof that this is not my home world.
What a shocking turn of events. This foreign country is a theme park attraction; this place is savage land located on Earth; but, this is merely my wishful thinking. The thought is stripped away and it falls apart.

Ah, it can't be helped. I need to come to terms with all.
Leaving it aside, it is more important for me to say, 「what should I do from here onward」.
I have nothing to lose. I calmly come up with my next plan of action.

「First, I should check the signboard.」 (Kanami)

I psyche myself up and walk down the street with a confident expression.

Fortunately, my attire didn't stand out. The sword and overcoat I'm wearing are uncommonly seen among the other adventurers; I also want a pretty outfit.

After a few minutes of walking, I arrive at the plaza. The size of this place is comparable to a baseball dome. There are fountains and stone benches.

In the center, there is a remarkably big fountain; and, beside it there is a large signboard. No one is looking at the signboard. Rather, very few people have stopped to observe the plaza. Perhaps, unless there is a special event, this place is just an ordinary road.

On the signboard, there is a giant map with a few notes written down. There is also a record of this country's history inscribed here. In the water fountain, there is a statue of a man in his prime. Perhaps, this is the country's national monument.
As I view the signboard, I try to memorize everything on it.

While reading the signboard, I learn that this country was 『built for the labyrinth』. It seems this place is a labyrinth country.

To be accurate, the full story is the 5 countries had allied; and, they all share a common believe that the 『labyrinth』 should be conquered. The legend says that whoever clears all 100 trials, 『their wish will come true』.

The requirement is to clear the labyrinth.
If I want to return to my home world, I must clear the labyrinth's 100th floor, it seems?

I continue reading.

I'm currently in 『Fuuzuyaazu』, the area north from the labyrinth. It says that this country was founded by a great knight. The nobles of this country believe in the code of chivalry.
The map shows Fuuzuyaazu in great detail.
In Fuuzuyaazu there are 100 district/ addresses. The first few address belong to the residents of young nobles that live here. It seems to be some sort of custom.
By the way, this is district 21. If I advance forward from here, I'll

arrive in district 22, the shopping area. The public institution are located in the district 20.

If the information is correct, the library should be in the district 20. I make my way there.

The library's sign stood out from the rest of the street. It wasn't difficult to find. As I enter the building, I hide my uneasiness. The receptionist looked my way, but I wasn't stopped.

It is a large european style building. Inside it is quiet; it's a normal library. I take several books that look useful to me. I bring them to a table and I sat down.

I open the book and begin to read. A problem arose.
To be more accurate, I realized something.

「Why, how is it possible for me to read this……」 (Kanami)

I mutter.
In response, the people who had been quietly reading, raised their head and stared at me.

「Ah, excuse my rudeness.」 (Kanami)

I make an apologetic bow. Not long after, they lose interest and they when back to reading.

In the first place, did they not find my style of apologizing unusual? Among the people who looked over here, there was a blond caucasian man; and also a person with a fluffy tail and animal ears. Does any of them have knowledge about a japanese person; or, has anyone of them been acquitted with one?

On closer examination, the characters used in this book are neither the Latin alphabet nor Japanese characters. For some reason, I'm able to understand this world's language perfectly.

Perhaps, the words that I speak are being automatically translated.

From Japanese to this unknown language; from this unknown language to Japanese, it's being translated.

It might be due to 「magic」; I'll leave it at that for now. However, does that mean the world has an effect on my brain? For it to effect my mind and change my memories and personality, it is a dreadful thing indeed——

——Skill 『???』 is out of control.
A certain amount of emotion has been converted to stabilize mental state.
Confusion has been corrected by +1.00——

Uh……, again……

The fear that had been bottling up had disappeared.
Although it is helpful, I can't help but have a bad feeling.
If I'm correct, it activates base on my emotions. A much as possible, I should refrain from having negative thoughts.

「Phew……」 (Kanami)

I take a deep breath and relax.

Although, this might not be composer I'm feeling.

The 『display』 only adds to the confusion. However, contrary to the display, inside I feel quite calm. Perhaps, the skill 『???』 cancels out my confusion. But, despite it, my status still shows 「condition : confusion 2.99」. Seeing this 『display』 makes me feel uneasy.

My feelings of uneasiness couldn't be helped.

Through this hardship, I stay calm and I try to concentrate.
And thus, I continue reading the book.

This world, the countries here, and the culture; their whole civilization and mind set is structured around the labyrinth.
As long as time permits it, even if it takes an eternity, I will try to do as much as I can.

Chapter 7: Preparations for Level Up

異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
Aim for the Depths of the Different Worlds Labyrinth

7. 準備期間とレベルアップ
Chapter 7 – Preparations for Level Up

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The sun is setting as I stop reading to ask the librarian a question.

Every now and then someone would stop reading to ask the librarian a question. I follow their lead and try to ask a question without being suspicious.

After a few hours of reading I had gathered a lot of information. From the books, I became aware of this world's basic history. I had studied this world's modern penmanship, job occupations, and learned about the people's daily life. Above all else this library has numerous amounts of information on the labyrinth and adventurers. (T/N: thank goodness author didn't go into detail)

I precede to the address that I got from the librarian. I arrived at the place where I can exchange things for money.

When no one was looking I retrieved the leather bag from my 『belongings』 and hung it around my hip.
While I was at the library, I was unable to learn more about the 『display』 or 『belongings』 system. There is a high possibility that only I possess it; and, that is way I thought to hide it.

I enter inside. This place looks similar to a curio shop from my home world. There are antiques and junk scattered around.

I call out to the shopkeeper who is plump man.

「I know it's late, but do you mind exchange this from money?」 (Kanami)

I politely start the conversation.
From the beginning my intent is to not take this conversation lightly. I'm here to get money, information gathering can wait. There is no need to take any unnecessary risk.

「Hmm, sure. Let me have a look.」 (male shopkeeper)
「Yes.」 (Kanami)

The shopkeeper respond right away. So, this place isn't unusual afterall.

——Belongings
Dry Meat 3　Water Pouch 2　Hemostasis Medicine 2　Oil 2
Paralysis Needle 1　Antidote 2　Polish (鑢) 1　Ooria's Longsword 1
Leather Glove 1　Leather Boots 1　Wooden Bow 1　Iron Knife 1
Common Arrow 1　Lighter 1　Smartphone 1　Pebble 4
Twig 1　Rank 10 Magic Stone 12　Rank 9 Magic Stone 3——
First, I retrieve the 12 'rank 10 magic stones' from my 『belongings』; I pretended that I had taken them out from the leather bag around my hip. Next, I place the magic stones on the counter in front of the shopkeeper.

「Oh, 'young' magic stones. I'll pay 1 copper per stone.」 (male shopkeeper)
「Okay, I understood. Please do.」 (Kanami)

From the start, the shopkeeper had no intentions to negotiate; after hearing the man's straightforward way of speaking, Kanami gave an immediate reply.

「Here, 12 copper coins. Do you have a certificate?」 (male shopkeeper)
「…… no, I do not.」 (Kanami)
「Well then, place your finger right here.」 (male shopkeeper)

The shopkeeper points to some black ink and blank paper.
I'm surprised he asked for a certificate. It seems that it is unavoidable. As I make a fingerprint, I thought, 「In my home world, how many years 'before the common era' did people start using fingerprints?」; I found this situation usual.

「You don't have a certificate but you went to the labyrinth; are you a foreigner?」 (male shopkeeper)

It is possible that the shopkeeper finds me suspicious because of my awkward expression. If he hears my answer, he might start to doubt me.

「Err, this is the first time I have been to the labyrinth. I heard about the labyrinth and came here from a far away country.」 (Kanami)
「Oh, is this your first caught? Not bad. So, where are you from?」 (male shopkeeper)

Not bad, huh. Although, I'm sad that most of these were looted from corpses. The ordinary conversation wasn't bad, because I had already secured the needed information about what to say while I was at the library. (T/N: beware the small talk)

I established that my home country is in a remote country. In addition, it's a minor country even among the remote countries. If I remember correctly, the place is 『Fania (ファニア)』.

「It is quite far away. The place is called Fania; have you heard of it?」 (Kanami)
「Fania, huh? I don't know the details, but I have heard of it once. You sure have come a long distances. What kind of place is Fania?」 (Shopkeeper)

What an usual amount of free time this person has. I thought small talk happened before the business transaction.

「There isn't much to speak of. Aside from that, do you know a good place to stay?」 (Kanami)
「Ah, a place to stay? In Fuuzuyaazu, there are public lodgings. However, they are expensive. Although, in the first place

Fuuzuyaazu doesn't have any cheap inns.」 (male shopkeeper)
「Is that so?」 (Kanami)

It is expensive to live in this country, Fuuzuyaazu.
I had a vague assumption from when I talked with that guard.

「It seems that they only let selected people enter this country. Fuuzuyaazu is the most affluent looking country. You're the first person I've met in this country that seems uninformed. Although this country has good public order the prices are high. Afterall, it is a knight country with the showy nobles at the center.」 (male shopkeeper)
「I see……」 (Kanami)

It was a coincidence that I happen to arrive in 『Fuuzuyaazu』.
Although, whether this place is a good or a bad country, I don't know.
So is this a country made for rich people?

「To be honest, without having money in Fuuzuyaazu it will be difficult to explore the labyrinth. The few copper coins you earned is only enough for one meal. That is why to stay in Fuuzuyaazu one needs to be an adventurer who is able to gain a high income from exploring the labyrinth.」 (male shopkeeper)
「Is that so? …… By the way, how much more does it cost to rent a room is this country compared to the other countries?」 (Kanami)
「I don't know about the surcharges, but compared to the neighbouring countries the lodgings in Fuuzuyaazu can cost up to a several hundred copper coins more.」
「S, several hundred…… uh!?」 (Kanami)
「This is a country where people will carry around gold coins without a second thought. It's unfortunate that you have no money. Today you will have to sleep outside near the 『kokusen line (魔石線ライン)』. Tomorrow you should go east to 『Varuto (ヴァルト)』. The public order in that country is somewhat bad, but it's a suitable place to explore the labyrinth. You should be able to find a place to stay there for several coppers coins.」 (male shopkeeper)

I want to refrain from sleeping on the streets. I'm already mentally exhausted, and I don't want to think about the stress it will leave me with. The conditions for the 『???』 skill to go out of control is

already known. Although, the effects were helpful a number of times, I have a bad premonition about it.

Furthermore, the place called the 『kokusen line』, I don't quite understand the details; and, I wasn't able to learn anything further from the library about the 『maryoku magic stone line』. Besides, I rather not sleep out in the open as the shopkeeper had suggested.

In other words, today, I can't be frugal in trying to make money. I wonder why the shopkeeper was willing to give a beginner like me advice?

「Eh, err, well, do you mind taking a look at my other belongings? How valuable are these……」 (male shopkeeper)
「Hmm, you still have more. Show them all to me.」 (male shopkeeper)
「Yes……」 (Kanami)

Afterwards, I exited the shop and retrieved the longsword from my 『belongings』. I thought about say that a friend had entrusted it to me, but that sounds suspicious. However, the shopkeeper didn't enquire more about the sword. Perhaps, in this world the other people do not possess a 『personal effect』 system nor do they have magic tools.

I only left myself the bare minimum that was needed, and exchanged the rest for money.

◆◆◆

——Belongings
Silver Coins 10　Copper Coins 21　Iron Knife 1　Dried Meat 3
Water Pouch 2　Hemostasis Medicine 2　Oil 2　Antidote 2
Lighter 1　Smartphone 1　Pebble 4　Twig 1——

I currently have 100 copper coins and 10 silver coins in my 『belongings』. It is all thanks to the longsword and the two rank 9

magic stones that I had. (T/N: yes, I know it says Copper Coins 21 above)

After getting a bit of hope I walked around Fuuzuyaazu in search for a cheap place to stay.

I didn't procedure a extravagant lodging; I rented a single room. Because the lodging includes dinner and breakfast, I went to the dining room. The meal is served as a buffet, and there are numerous peculiar dishes. I'm embarrassed by not knowing their table manners; so, I asked one of the employee. Because of the cost to stay at the inn is high the employee politely taught me.

Honestly, the meal was unappetising.
Compared to my home world this food is worlds apart. None of it was tasteful. There was something like mash potatoes, and the main dish was a loaf of bread.

I finish my meal and return to the room I rented.
It is a simple room. If I were to grade the room, I would call it unhygienic. However, it seems that in this world this is a first-class room.
Confronted by this fact I became lightheaded. I take a deep breath to calm my spirit. (T/N: the protagonist is a whiny little b***h)

「I'm tired……」 (Kanami)

I fall into the hard bed with my equipment on.

This is the first break I had taken today.

Relax.

Suddenly, I remember that I have 『forgot my priorities』.

If this was my normal train of thought, I would have thought this day was strange. There are numerous things worth questioning. And, without an answer I found it all unsettling.

Why did this all happen?
What did I do? When I awoken in the labyrinth, I was attacked by a monster. There is magic. And, this world is more or less similar to a

RPG video game. Is something toying with me? I almost bleed to death. I looted corpse like a common bandit. There are too many things to ponder about, but I must continue to live on. Although, I'm unsatisfied with the current circumstances. What exactly is this world? Where is my home world? Where is my family? I may not have parents, but I do have a 『younger sister』. Did I suddenly vanish from my home world? Has my sister been left all alone? Is there, is there no method for me to return home? I won't be able to get-up early to make breakfast for two tomorrow. I have slipped into this fictional like world. Every time this 『display』 pop-up I feel a nauseating sickness. How is this video game like status and system appearing in my eye? To what extent had my brain been tempered with? I'm overcome with an overwhelming sense of fear. I'm sure that I'm able to communicate with the people of this world. It is as if, I'm watching a Hollywood movie that is dubbed in Japanese. Although it sounds impossible, it very handy. I'm joking. It makes me want to vomit. This is a joke that had became a sick joke. It is nauseating. And, I can't take a shower. SHIT, THIS MAKES ME ANGRY, HAHA, HA—— (T/N: sigh)

——Skill 『???』 is out of control.
A certain amount of emotion has been converted to stabilize mental state.
Confusion has been corrected by +1.00——

The display disappears.
And, the raging blaze in my head is instantly extinguish.

Haha, I've done it again.

But, I couldn't help it.

I need to take measures to understand my current circumstance.
I'll try my best.
The only thing I can do for now is to repeating this over and over to myself.
Currently, the most important thing for me to do right now is rest my body.

Even a child can die.

I rest my tired brain.
And, I sleep like a baby.

I fall into the abyss of darkness.
As I didn't dream, I'm wrapped in a room of darkness.
It is a jet-black world.

Although, I slept for a few hours it felt like a few minutes.
And thus, I fell asleep.

◆◆◆◆◆

「Wake Up!」 (???)

I had the air knocked out of my lungs.
My stomach is flattened and I awaken in pain.

「Hey, hurry up, please wake up. Hurry, hurry!」 (???)

I hear a voice.
It is high pitch, and it sounds childish.
Of this I'm certain……

「Ah…… your……」 (Kanami)

As I open my eyes, I confirm the owner of the voice.
Unless I'm hallucinating this person is.

「I have brought something good; so, please wake up.」 (???)

The voice belongs to the eerie girl I met inside the labyrinth. If I recall, her name is Lastiara (ラスティアラ).
She isn't wearing the armor that she worn in the labyrinth. Lastiara is wearing casual clothes made of white silk.

Anyhow, this girl is firmly pressing down my stomach.

I can't wrap my mind around the current circumstances. Although, I

originally never understood what was happening to begin with; but, I'm still able to conversate normally.

「This here is my room……」 (Kanami)

For the time being I criticize the intruder to see what happens. By the way, I don't know if trespassing is considered a crime is this world.

「Oh, ooh, amazing. You aren't surprise in this situation.」 (Lastiara)
「I sure am surprised, but it just hasn't caught up to me.」 (Kanami)

Although the girl is smaller than me, I speak to her politely.
I don't know who she is, but it is highly likely that she is the daughter of an upper class family that is somehow related to this labyrinth.

「Really? Well, I'm very worried, you know. You are level 1, and you can level-up.」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara looks delighted as she speaks.
I find the enjoyment that gleams from her eyes terrifying. Her eyes that are about the size of a ping-pong-ball has the hollow gaze of a dead fish. I'm freaked out by her eyes that don't become focus. (T/N: she sounds hot)

「Are you a person that can see levels?」 (Kanami)

I gave her an indifferent response.

By the way, in this world, levels and understanding of levels is common knowledge. At the library there are many books that describe level and status. And, it is written that selected people are able to see levels.
However, being selected as one of god's chosen people leaves me uneasy.

「Eh, in this world……, if a person is lucky they will possess the ability. Although, if a devoted person trains for a long time, they can obtain the ability. A public institution, the church is in charge

of level-ups; it is performed by a priest. By the way, I'm the former type.」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara causally talks about the things that I wanted to know about. She talked to me as if, I was naturally inexperience about this world. And, 「in this world」, is this something a person would normally say.

I'm so surprised by everything that it takes my breath away.
I try my best to select the right words to say.

「I didn't know, thank you very much. However, why are you telling me this. I don't know who you are. Must I call someone to sent you away.」 (Kanami)
「Hold on a moment. No need to be worried. I came here to help you, because you have amass an excess amount of EXP. I'm here in good will.」 (Lastiara)

She over exaggerates by raises both her arms to express that she came here with good intentions. (T/N: that's alright with me)

「I refuse. I have already researched it at the library and I'm aware of the church's location.」 (Kanami)

I coldly refuse her.
There is no need for me to be modest; I want this suspicious person to leave. To me, leveling up is an important event.

「Eh, eheh……」 (Lastiara)

On my reply, Lastiara shoulders slump downwards.

「Now, please leave.」 (Kanami)
「*normally it would have been…… this reaction is light, meh……*」 (Lastiara)

The Lastiara who has become timid begins to mumble something. It seems that our interaction had turned out different than she expected.
And thus, in silence I firmly stay by my decision for her to leave.
However, Lastaria looks toward me with a determined expression.

「Alright then, coercion it is.」 (Lastaria)

She makes the best smile I've seen today.

I look into her eyes. The impression I get from them haven't changed at all. How can those deep gold pupils be so terrifying. Scary. I think this girl is a monster pretending to be a human. No matter how much I find her face beautiful, I don't see the warmth of a person in her expression. I only see the eyes of a cold blooded predator.

Although my body is overcome with fear, I somehow gather the strength to raise from the bed.
In response Lastiara began an incantation.

「『destable wooden box』『soundless sky、songless』
『unbind……——」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara waves her hand as she recites the magic.
As quickly as I could, I went for the exit. There is no advantage for me to confront this person alone; therefore, I need a third party to intervene. My first priority is to exit this room.

While she is preoccupied with using magic, this is the best time for me to make my exit. I place my hand on the doorknob of the exit; It w——on't move.
The doorknob won't budge. The 『magic』 had solidified the doorknob when a purple light was emitted from it.

I pound on the door to request for help. (T/N: she really wants him)

「Someone——Hel!」 (Kanami)
「The room has been soundproofed. Just accept it and quiet down.」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara had approached my back without me noticing. From behind me, she reach to my throat and strokes it.
Immediately, I brush away her hand. I noticed that my throat emitted a purple light; it was the same magic used on the doorknob. From my throat I feel an usual chill.

「——(ah)!」 (Kanami)

No sounds come out from my throat.
Lastiara confirms this by placing her hand on my throat once more.
I prepare myself to grab her wrist and twist it behind her back.

In that moment I'm thrown into the air.
Below me I see the top of Lastiara's head. And then, I understood.
When I had grabbed her wrist, she had reversal the grip and threw me. There is no way a girl that weighs about 50 kilos could have that sort of strength.

I quickly calm my mind as I'm rotating in the air. I concentrate and try to perform an ukemi. Beforehand, I had readied myself for anything that might happen.
I graze the ceiling and crash onto the floor. Luckily, I was able to plant both my legs and right arm on the ground to break my fall.
The pain from the impact causes my face to warp. Lastiara draws closer to me.

I prepare to retrieve the knife from my 『belongings』. Lastiara will soon see the surprising turn of events. I immediately grin, because from out of nowhere something appeared from my hand.

But, I stop myself as she had moved closer to me knowing that I would use a knife on her. I take out a water pouch from my 『belongings』 to blind her.

Lastiara had anticipated my counterattack. She knocks away the water pouch and swiftly brushes away the knife with her foot.

As she held down my head, Lastiara recites magic.
I sense a purple light from my body, and I become unable to move.

「Oh, an ukemi, how nice. Your judgement is also good. Amazing. It is hard to believe your a level 1.」 (Lastiara)

I was unable to do anything against her, and yet she is impressed. She continues to talks as if she's surprised.

「This is something that can't be expressed with a 『numerical value』. Definitely amazing. Not to mention, your strength and agility is only 1/10 of my own. Despite that, you were able to

perform an ukemi. If I didn't have magic, it would have been trouble for me.」 (Lastiara)

I can't reply nor can I retort.
In this situation I can't even feel anxious.

「There is no need to worry. You might not believe me, but I have no ill intent towards you. I'm here to help you level up, truthfully.」 (Lastiara)

While saying so, Lastiara gets on the back of me who is groveling on the floor and unable to move. She retrieves a worn out book from her bosom.

「Now then, the level up incantation was…… 『carefully reflect——」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara began to recite the incantation. From both our body a white light leaks out.

「——the existence in oneself, come forth』, and that's all.」 (Lastiara)

As soon as the magic ends I level up. Lastiara wasn't lying.

「You are 『the one I've chosen』, therefore it's embarrassing having you walk around as a level 1. With such low status, what if something happens to you? It more than just about appearances. Now, I can have peace mind.」 (Lastiara)

Her task is finish. She wipes a single drop of sweat from her brow, and moves towards the window in the room.

「Well now, because there are people frantically searching for me, I will kindly leave.」 (Lastiara)

Lastiara jumps out of the window.

By the way, I'm unable to move my body.
I watch the tempest of trouble, Lastiara leave. I check my status.

——Status

Name Aikawa Kanami HP 119/121 MP 71/141 No Class
Level 4
Physical Strength 3.03 Endurance 3.15 Ability 4.07 Speed 5.05
Intelligence 6.09 Maryoku 8.08 Potential 7.00
Condition: Confusion 4.29
EXP: 127/800
Equipment: Otherworld clothing——

——Bonus points 3
Skill points 3
Generated——

What is this……

It seems that the girl, Lastiara, had no ill intent towards me. However, for now I'm unwilling to accept this egoistic person.

Although, the matter is insignificant I'm still cautious of her.

Afterall, I had paid the high fee to rent this room, and yet, I'm sleeping on the cold floor.

The day ends.

——Status
Name Aikawa Kanami HP 119/121 MP 71/141 No Class
Level 4
Physical Strength 3.03 Endurance 3.15 Ability 4.07 Speed 5.05
Intelligence 6.09 Maryoku 8.08 Potential 7.00
Condition : Confusion 4.29
EXP : 127/800——
——Skill
Innate Skill Swordsmanship 1.01 Ice magic 2.00
Secondary Skill Dimension magic 5.01

——Magic
Ice magic : Freezing 1.00 Ice 1.01

– ToC –

Chapter 8: Tales of Not Wanting to Dive Into the Labyrinth

異世界迷宮の最深部を目指そう
Aim for the Depths of the Different Worlds Labyrinth

8.迷宮に潜りたくない話
Chapter 8 – Tales of Not Wanting to Dive Into the Labyrinth

MTL: uniquegasuki
Editor/ Proofreader: (not proofread)

The next day.

After waking up I was able to move my body.

I had planned on going east to Varuto (ヴァルトへ).
I didn't hesitate to ask the inn clerk about anything I should know before making the journey.

At first I had prepared myself for a long journey; however, it was still morning when I arrived near the Varuto's border. The five countries were built for the labyrinth; therefore, the five country are a short distance from the labyrinth.
A simple stone wall separates the five countries' borders. There doesn't seem to be any transgression concerning the borderline. I find myself worrying about how they manage the flow of people coming and going through the borders. The stonewall, 『makokusen line (魔石線ライン)』, is made from unknown technology.

Varuto is a short walk from Fuuyaazu (フーズヤーズ). I could immediately see the difference between the two.

The gap between the rich and the poor is remarkable. Above all the management is completely different.
I noticed that most of the people here are adventurers. There are many people carrying tools. It is obvious as to which ones have an occupation that involves fighting.

When I arrive in Varuto I reconfirm my objective.
My main goal is to 『return to my world』. If I continue to stay in this mysterious and dangerous world, I will go insane. There is also the matter of the family member that I left behind. It is necessary for me to return.

However, there is no direct method to 『return to my home world』. For now, there is the appeal of challenging the harsh and enormous labyrinth. The legend goes that whoever completes it will have 『their wish granted』. It is a typical alternate game-like world scenario. Although this world has a magic based civilization, from what I have investigated I begin to think that the possibility of being able to 『return』 seemed low. I had looked over most of the books in the library, but I didn't find any information related to the topic.

To investigate methods to return and to attempt to conquer the labyrinth, I will need money.
I need money to eat and pay from logdings. And, I will need various tools while in the labyrinth. To secure weapons I also need money. (T/N: why did he choose to sell his weapon & equipment again)

In other words; money, money, and money.

And thus, my next action will be——!

◆◆◆

「Hey, newcomer. When you finish washing the dishes take out the trash!」 (???)
「Yes, understood!」 (Kanami)

I begin my part-time job working at a tavern.

To be honest, I don't want to enter the labyrinth again and I don't want to see it ever again.
I thought this from the bottom of my heart.
To earn money from the labyrinth was a premature judgement. Simply put I'm scared. If it were possible, I would put more distance between myself and there.

During my walk in Varuto while I was near the labyrinth's entrance, I discovered a notice about employment at a tavern. And then, I took the interview for the job. Although it was a challenge to not lie during the interview, I was hired on the first attempt. Of course they performed a background check.

The hiring process in another world is surprisingly "smooth". It was quite different from my home country that is in a recession.

By the way, I do have experience working part-time in a restaurant. I have confidence in my cooking because I cook everyday. And that is why I took the job without delay. Because the tavern is near the labyrinth, it is a good place to get first-hand information. I don't regret taking this job.

「Kirisuto-kun (キリスト), clean this up.」 (???)
「Yes!」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

Kirisuto.

I felt afraid; thus, I'm using an alias. The primary reason for my fear is the hentai (weird/ abnormal) girl, Lastiara (ラスティアラ). I fear that the name "Kanami" will become known.

Kirisuto□Yuurashia (ユーラシア). This is my alias in this world. (T/N: Christ Eurasia)

Of course, I have a reason for choosing this name. There is a possibility that I'm not the only resident from an alternate world. That's right; for a chance to encounter a fellow comrade, I need a "major" name that they will take notice of. (T/N: I can't tell if the Author is trying to be funny or not)

I thought about using the name of a country or the name of a

famous chief executive, but “Kirisuto□Yuurashia” was the name that came out of my mouth.

Above all it sounds right. When literally translate it seems like the name of a continent.

Well, anyways that was the best I could do.

「Hu-rr-y, Kirisuto-kun.」 (Riin)
「Sorry.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

The girl, Riin-san (リィン), who has the job of luring customers had stop to criticize me in the bar area.

Right now it is our busiest hour, dinner-time.
This is the time period where the tavern is filled-up with adventurers that have come from the labyrinth after their exploration, and are now here to fill their stomach.
I pick-up information as I do chores.

「Hehe, today we earned a lot.」 (unknown adventurer A)
「Ahaha, when I first saw the swarm of 『Soldier Ants (ソルジャーアント)』 I broke out in a cold sweat. However, it turned out to be a fairly efficient hunt.」 (unknown adventurer B)
「Well, I’m not sure as to whether we were lucky or unlucky to encounter that swarm. But, if things got dangerous, we would’ve runway.」 (unknown adventurer C)
「Anyways, it was worth not fleeing.」 (unknown adventurer D)

In the bar area there are numerous conversations about the labyrinth going on. From where I’m working, I try to listen for anything significant.

I observe the adventurers as I wipe a dirty table.

「Hey, newcomer-kun. Did the other guy who worked here quit?」 (friendly man)

By the way, very few people address me by my name.
Compared to my home world the restaurant in this world have a different kind of “friendly”. (T/N: the world building in this is mind numbing, cough)

「Yes, I'm Kirisuto. I started today. The previous person who worked here already quit.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)
「I see. This place is crazy-shit busy for the meager salary.」 (friendly man)

The man who I had talked to laughed in good humor.
From the kitchen the manager shouts, 「what did you say, meager pay!」. The friendly man continues to laugh.

At this resturant the "power-balance" is unique. It seems that the manager had once made a name for himself exploring the labyrinth. The manager doesn't back-down even against rowdy customers. I often heard him swear at the customers.
I'm not concerned that this place is setup near the labyrinth.

For example; when the female employee, Riin-san, is harassed the manager quickly "follows-up".
Although we had recently met, I feel that I can rely on the manager.

However, I am worried about how this tavern is managed because they hired a complete stranger.

「Boy, I wonder how long you'll last here. There are plenty of annoying customers, that includes myself.」 (friendly man)
「That isn't so, everyone is good natured. I believe that I'll enjoy working here.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)
「Ohh, then there is no problem. You're different from the previous guy, you have a way with words.」 (friendly man)
「Thank you very much.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)
「Well, but, being to formal won't do. Lighten-up.」 (Kurou/ friendly man)

「Hey, Kurou (クロウ)! Stop hogging all of the newcomer's time! Or, I'll knock you out!」 (manager)

From the kitchen a loud voice can be heard.
It seems that the manager and this man, Kurou, are acquaintances. The manager spoke in a rather harsh tone.

「I have to go there are dishes waiting to be washed.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

「Hehe, perhaps the boss won't beat me down.」 (Kurou)

Kurou-san raises one hand and nods.

I turn around and make my way to the kitchen.
And thus, I go back to making dirty dishes clean again.

At first I let the dishes hang to dry because it was efficient.

I worked from evening to late in the night.
I have previous experience of this type of work, but nevertheless it is hard work.
While working, I improve on my 『dimension』 magic, because it might be useful someday.

And, this is how my first job in another world went.

◆◆◆

「Hmm. Finished, newcomer. So, how was your first day?」 (manager)
「Well, there sure were many customers, I think you already know my response.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

The last customer has left for the day. I was in the process of tidying up the place when the manager came to chat with me.

「You're a cheeky fellow. I assume I will be able to count on you tomorrow also.」 (manager)
「Eh, me cheeky? Am I really.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)
「Hmph. That isn't it. You have a polite manner of speaking that it comes off as cheeky.」 (manager)
「Certainly, today I may have been to formal……」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

In this world I might be suffering from a "culture gap". I wasn't trying to make the people who talk with me feel uncomfortable. But, it seems that my manner of speak may not be popular in this world. (T/N: words cannot describe how I feel about this)

I should take the thought into consideration.
A guest had mentioned there was something about the way I talked.
I look towards the other employee who is quite “frank”.

「Don’t take it so seriously. You will get use to things a little bit at a time. Your job is to work in the kitchen and it isn’t so much to wait on customers.」 (manager)
「Eh, Kirisuto, do you not want to work in the kitchen?」 (Riin)

Upon hearing the words “kitchen”, Riin-san draws closer to me; her long and brown braids sways about.

「Ah, I think Kirisuto is suited for kitchen work. He has demonstrated his ability to handle a kitchen knife. His fingers are nimble and he has experience cooking.」 (Riin)
「Well, that is why he was hired on the first day.」 (manager)
「I get the feeling that he will be able to serve customers that are pointlessly polite. There doesn’t seem to be any reason for him to change.」 (Riin)

Nevertheless, even without a reason this place is amusing to work at.
I couldn’t put it into words, but I felt a heart wrenching feel from the depths of my heart.

「Yeah, I didn’t have to instruct him much.」 (Riin)
「You see, there is nothing wrong with my eyes. Well then, I’m returning to the back; I’ll leave the rest to you.」 (manager)
「Yes.」 (Riin)

As the manager has said, he goes to the back to tidy up the kitchen.

「Good for you Kirisuto-kun. You needed money didn’t you?」 (Riin)
「Yup, it is helpful. However, this place is fairly different from my rural hometown. I didn’t know what to expect at first.」 (Kanami/ Kirisuto)

I had prepared an explanation beforehand.

「Ah, from a far away country, errr……」 (Riin)

「From, Fania (ファニア)」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)
「I see, Fania. I never heard of Fania. You sure must've come from far away.」 (Riin)
「Well as you can see now, it was a pitiful and fleeting dream.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

After telling her about my dream, I showed her the burn scars on both my arms.
In other words, my story is "a young boy who dreamt of – traveling to and challenging the labyrinth – but was defeated by the labyrinth on the first day."

「Ugh, it looks painful. But, thank goodness you didn't lose an arm or an eye. You couldn't work here if you're dead. 」 (Riin)

I'm quite frightened by the words Riin spoke.
Their viewpoint on the world is also different. After working at this tavern, I've seen various types of people – who are adventurers – that regularly venture into the labyrinth. (T/N: tried to make the meaning clearer)

「If you work here, you won't have to worry about your next meal.」 (Riin)
「Uh-huh, I'll definitely want to work here. Plus, onee-san is here to help me. You're much better than that other person, you are courteous, and I won't forget you.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

It seems I have made a good impression on Riin-san. The level of training in etiquette between this world and my, varies.
『Dimension』 is very helpful in remembering information. This magic makes me feel dishonest. (T/N: don't know)

「Keep at it. Now then, help me tidy up these tables.」 (Riin)
「Yes, here let me!」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

We finished tidying up the place. The manager, goes over my contract and informs me about the details. Although, some may say I'm getting preferential treatment but that isn't so. Because, this is only a part-time job for me, and thus I could refuse their terms as I'm still in the middle of trying various jobs.
However, I don't think the people who work here would be okay

with that.

「Phew, it's over Kirisuto-kun. Lastly, this place needs to be locked.」 (Riin)
「Understood.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

Now this is the last part of the job, it's our duty to lockup the tavern.
I move closer to the entrance to close the taverns big door.
And then, I suddenly noticed it.

Something was being picked up by 『dimension』.
There is a person outside the shop. I use my remaining MP to confirm the person's identity.

「Status—— ……uh, impossible. 『dimension□multiple expansive multiply』」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

I use up my MP to gather more information about the current state of affairs.

By the way, the magic 『dimension□multiple expansive multiply』 has a different effect from the one I used in the dungeon. I had applied more MP to 『dimension』 and this is the effect that I occurs.

The skill's name is long, but it makes it more exhilarating to use.

There is a big wooden signboard outside the tavern. A child wearing a hood who is about the same age as me is crouching behind the signboard.

I exit the tavern while feeling uneasy.

A small white object falls to the ground. Although there were a few of them, it was a beautiful spectacle.
By the way, the white objects resemble snow; to be more precise it is of a higher 『tiaarei (ティアーレイ)』. It's characteristics are different when compared to the snow from my home world.
Those aren't ice crystals from this world's winter. However, when enough maryoku is collected it does crystallize and rain from the sky. I read about it at the library; although, I don't know the details.

(T/N: maybe it's tear)

The child wearing the hood is crouching down to gather up the tiaarei.
I greet the person.

「Umm, can you get up?」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)
「——ah!」 (???)

The hooded child raises their head and looks towards my direction.

The sight of their wide eyes startled me. I adjust my gaze.
It is a young girl.
When she had raised her head, her golden colored hair spilled out from her hood. Her long hair gave off the impression of warm sunlight. She has impressive big blue eyes and an androgynous face.

When she saw me, she stood up. We appear to be about the same age, but she is 2 halves of a head shorter. She has a petite physique.

I talk to her as an employee of this tavern.

「Will you please get up, this place is already closed……」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)
「……why, can I not stand here?」 (???)

The girl gave a blunt response.

「Well, as long as you're not doing anything wrong it should be alright, maybe.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)
「I see. Then I will stay here. I don't want to be a bother.」 (???)

After saying so the girl sat down.
Her manly mannerisms are unsuited to her appearance.

「That isn't what I meant. It's dangerous for a young girl to be out here by herself this late in the day.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

Perhaps I'm meddling, and maybe I'm forcing my opinion on this world's ethics.

「Do you have a place to stay——」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)

「I don't have any money. So, I thought I could bathe in the warmth of the tavern.」 (???)

The girl disregards my comment and changes the subject.

If that is the case then I can't add anything more.
It can't be helped the tavern is already closed. However, I'm troubled by the fact that a young girl will sleep outdoors.

「W-well then, we're already closed.」 (Kanami/Kirisuto)
「……」 (???)

I have never helped out a stranger before. And, it is not like I have enough free space for the both of us.
I antagonize over the thought of closing the tavern's door.

「By the way I'm not a girl…… so, don't worry about it.」 (???)

I heard the girl's voice as soon as the door was shut.

Well, it does sound like a young boy's voice. I'm surprised by the truth after having closed the tavern door. It appears that I was pointlessly worrying.

Although, I don't know if this person is lying or not. However, it became clear that what I had believed before was insignificant.

The manager and the other employee's are waiting for me in the tavern. I go back inside.

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Afterwards, the manager decided on various thing in the contract.

Although, compared to my world the contract wasn't as detailed. For now during the day I will be trying out various jobs. I am told that the pay everyday will vary. And thus, I receive the pay of 10 copper coins for today's wage.

Furthermore, I'm allowed to lodge at this tavern.

I'm surprised by the favorable treatment.

Things had turned out differently than I had expected. The manager had overlooked the fact that I'm a suspicious person.
Riin-san, 「perhaps, she had figured me out by my facial expression when the 『makokusen line (魔石線ライン)』 was mentioned. 」. It seems the makokusen line brings together various towns; the guards around here provides defense and protection against crimes.
Perhaps that is why these places are crowded. (T/N: don't know)

And thus, now I have a roof over my head and a warm blanket to wrap myself in.

My position compared to the boy from not to long ago is like heaven and earth.

「Status, Skill――」

――Skill point 2
remaining――

While in the spare room in the corner of the tavern, I examine my 『display』.

Last time when I was assulted by Lastiara (ラスティアラ), my level rose. And in that process I had received 2 bonus skill points.

Would it be more effect to use the bonus point toward strength or endurance? The skill points when used will cause a skill to acquire growth.

I spend the bonus points on increasing my HP because I don't want to die. If this were more like a video game, I would put the points into strength or intelligence. One never knows when that extra HP will be helpful. With 1 point used my HP rose by 10. My total HP is now 151.

I use 1 skill point towards dimension magic to observe the change, and I save the remaining 2 skill points. 『Dimension magic 5.01 ＋ 0.10』.

「Perhaps, I have obtained a new magic…… 」

While I hope it doesn't this will no doubt affect my life in relation to the labyrinth. I currently have 2 remaining skill points that can be assigned to magic.

「I work at the tavern in the evenings. Should I go around town and gather information tomorrow morning?」

I calmly make plans.
There is no need to rush, because I have a fixed income. The bewilderment about this world that I felt, and the fear of the skill 『???』 going out of control is almost a blur to me now.

Now that things are in order I can logical take steps towards my goal of 『returning』.
First, I will take a few days to gather up information. I will try to focus on information related to the labyrinth. Also I need information about the 『display』, managing magic, tool shops and equipment shops. And, anything else I may need to challenge the labyrinth.

I tryout things with the 『display』 until I fell asleep.

And thus, my second day in another world when by peacefully.

In the book the name became Jiiku-kun (ジーク). (T/N: Sieg)

Second day end.
——Status
Name　Aikawa Kanami　HP 151/151　MP 34/141　No Class
Level 4
Physical Strength 3.03　Endurance 3.16　Ability 4.07
Speed 5.05　Intelligence 6.09　Maryoku 8.08　Potential 7.00
Condition : Confusion 4.29
EXP : 127/800——
——Skill Status
Innate Skill　Swordsmanship 1.01　Ice magic 2.00
Secondary Skill　Dimension magic 5.01 + 0.10
???　???
???　???——

——Magic
Ice magic : Freezing 1.00 Ice 1.01
Dimension magic : Dimension 1.02——

– ToC –